FISCAL NOTE

HB 2539 - SB 2661

February 24, 2008

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits stay of execution if any court declares lethal injection to be unconstitutional. Requires the execution to be performed by any constitutional means available, including but not limited to electrocution.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant

Assumptions:

- Under current law, a person who commits a capital offense prior to January 1, 1999, may elect to be executed by electrocution rather than lethal injection. The Department of Correction must keep and maintain an electrical apparatus with all the necessary appliances sufficient for electrocution in the death chamber. There would be no additional expenses incurred by the Department as a result of eliminating the option of lethal injection.
- According to the Administrative Office of the Courts, any impact this legislation would have on caseloads could be accommodated within existing judicial resources.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director

/lsc